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AFI 1746 "

14, 2004 Signature:

Docket No.: 199372003500 Client reference: 133054US

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Application No.: 09/971,136

Application 140.. 09/9/1,130

Filed: October 3, 2001

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: Frankie L. Stinson

## **AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated March 12, 2004, for which a response is due on June 14, 2004 (the first business day following June 12, 2004), please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

06/17/2004 JADDD1 00000022 031952 09971136 01 FC:1201 86.00 DA

LA-728849